YORKMINSTER PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

TORONTO, CANADA

OCTOBER 30, 31, 1993

OPENING PRESENTATION

JOHN M. BUCHANAN, PASTOR
FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CHICAGO

I HOPE I HAVE A BETTER WEEKEND THAN THE LAST GROUP OF CHICAGOANS WHO VISITED TORONTO.

AND DIFFICULT AS IT IS FOR ME AFTER THE ROUGH TREATMENT THE WHITE SOX RECEIVED AT THE HANDS OF THE BLUE JAYS - I WANT TO BRING GREETINGS FROM CHICAGO AND CONGRATULATIONS ON THE EXCELLENCE OF YOUR BASEBALL TEAM.

IT'S NOT ONLY THAT THEY ARE CANADIAN AND ARE MAKING A HABIT OF BEATING THE AMERICANS AT OUR OWN PASTIME, IT IS THAT THE TEAM WAS SO BALANCED AND BUSINESS-LIKE AND SO GOOD.

a game we think we own and a championship..

and as if to punctuate the point - your lucky team beat the Black Hawks at Chi. Sted. on Thurs for first time in 4 years -

HOWEVER, I WISH TO REMIND YOU THAT TWO CHICAGO TEAMS PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLL. | YOU DEFEATED THE WHITE SOX, BUT THE NATIONAL LEAGUE TEAM - THE CUBS - WAS PRESENT AS WELL. | POLITICAL COLUMNIST AND SATIRIST, MIKE ROYKO, WHO WRITES FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE, HAS A THEORY THAT THE TEAM WITH THE MOST EX-CHICAGO CUBS ON IT ALWAYS LOSES THE WORLD SERIES. | AND HE'S RIGHT - THAT'S HOW IT HAPPENS. \ THIS YEAR IT HAD A PECULIAR SPIN - BUT IN THE END - IN THAT APOCALYPTIC CONFRONTATION IN THE BOTTOM OF THE NINTH, IT WAS CUB VS. CUB - JOE CARTER WHO HIT THE HOME RUN, AND MITCH WILLIAMS - WHOSE NICKNAME "WILD THING" IS NO EXAGGERATION, PITCHED THE BALL THAT CARTER HIT - ARE BOTH EX-CHICAGO CUBS. | AND THAT'S ABOUT AS CLOSE AS CUB FANS GET TO A WORLD SERIES. (~~I SUPPOSE CARTER BUSTED WILLIAMS - AND THE JAYS.~~ BESTED

The Cubs have not won a championship since 1908 - the longest dry spell in pro sports - consistently + loveably mediocre..

There is something theologically correct about being a Cub fan.. which the Blue Jay's success deprives you of. Vicarious suffering .. solidarity with the poor + oppressed .. existential experience in humility, meekness ..

Also wish + thank Yorkminster Park for sending us Hank + Nancy Hunter's.

gives me opportunity to say a bit about FPC..

We are a large urban church on probably the busiest intersection in Chicago. In middle of up-scale dept stores, shops, hotels, cinemas Our closest neighbor are Havcode Bldg— 96 stories.. Bloomingdales, Lord + Taylor + M. Field..

The Church serves diverse constituency urban professionals, newcomers, marginal..

has always defined itself by preaching, worship, music + mission.

~~3~~ 450 $ child from Ida Howe project. called Cabrini Green.

in Tutoring

There have been many shootings in Chicago's projects. drugs - gangs & guns - unemployment

C-Green. 40 buildings - many 20 stories - 50's. Mexpressive - architecture + simply now - functional..

85% to single mothers.. gangs - filth..

Year ago 4 yr boy Dantrell shot. as walked to school pierced cranium

Our plan - undertaking - to establish a presence. + address parent/child - not to dictate

Nancy chaired committee

Call for White Light -

then we hired her to administrate

Opened last summer

dedicated 2 weeks ago..

a beacon of light. + love + hope.

so - Thanks for Nancy

Vicarious suffering - It Is and

WON, BECAUSE WILLIAMS IS THE MOST RECENT CUB PLAYER OF THE TWO.)

SO MAYBE WE'LL SEE YOU AGAIN NEXT ~~YEAR~~..

Thank for Nancy - all about FPC here.

WHAT TO TALK ABOUT TO A GROUP OF PREACHERS AND INTERESTED LAY PEOPLE ON A SATURDAY MORNING? THERE ARE PLENTY OF EXPERTS IN THE DILEMMA OF THE TRADITIONAL OLD OR MAINLINE CHURCHES IN NORTH AMERICA. THERE ARE THEOLOGIANS AND HISTORIANS AND SCHOLARS AND MANAGEMENT EXPERTS WHO COULD TALK LEARNEDLY ABOUT .. THE SEVERAL DIMENSIONS OR ~~DISCIPLINARIES~~ Disciplines THAT OCCUPY THE MINISTER'S TIME. WHAT I THINK I KNOW AND WHAT MIGHT BE OF SOME INTEREST TO YOU IS HOW TO ~~SURVIVE FOR THIRTY YEARS AS A PARISH MINISTER.~~

How to be a ministry pastor & a clever & how to survive for 30 years.

LOTS DON'T BY THE WAY... THE CRASH AND BURN RATE FOR PARISH MINISTERS IS PRETTY HIGH. THE DISSATISFACTION AND UNHAPPINESS RATE IS EVEN HIGHER AND ON